

## Religious Department.

Rev. J. W. MALCOLM, Editor.

### SERMON.

Preached at the funeral of Martha S. child of Mr. Nathan C. and Mrs. Susan A. Ufford, who died in Barton, March 14, 1872, aged 8 years, by Rev. S. K. B. Perkins.

[PRINTED BY REQUEST.]

TEXT.—Matt. 9:18-19. "While he (Jesus) spake these things unto them, behold, there came a certain ruler, and worshipped him, saying, My daughter is even now dead; but come and lay thy hand upon her, and she shall live. And Jesus arose, and followed him, and so did his disciples."

Let us go back in imagination and review the interesting narrative of which the text is the introduction. Jairus was the ruler of a Jewish house of worship; that is, one who had the chief direction of all the affairs connected with the purpose for which the house was built, and who had influence and commanded respect among the people. He had doubtless heard of the power of Jesus manifested in his wonderful works, for already had Jesus commanded the return of a spirit, and brought it from the unseen world that it might be reinstated in its earthly mansion."

At the time referred to in the text, the tenderly beloved daughter of Jairus lay at the point of death, or perhaps had died already, as her father passed from the chamber of sickness to the place where Jesus was. The Master at once discerned the man's faith, and went with his disciples and others in the direction of the ruler's house. While they were on their way, there came one with the sad but not unexpected message to Jairus, "thy daughter is dead, trouble not the Master." As soon as Jesus heard the words that were spoken, he answered, "fear not, believe only, and she shall be made whole." At length they approached the stricken house, and Jesus, that there might be no undue excitement, suffered no man to follow him, save Peter, and James, and John the brother of James. In accordance with the Jewish custom, the people were already bewailing the child as dead, and the ministers, who were employed to aid their grief and increase the expression of their sorrow, had commenced the funeral dirge. When Jesus was come in, he said unto them, "why make ye this ado and weep? she is not dead but sleepeth." And they laughed him to scorn, knowing that she was dead, and being faithless as to the power of Jesus. But so, however, were the father and mother of the child. Nevertheless, what an hour of suspense it must have been to them! After quiet was restored by the dismissal of the unbelieving people and the ministers, Jesus took the child by the hand and called, saying, "Maid, arise!" and she arose straightway and walked, and he commanded that something should be given her to eat. And her parents were astonished at the miracle Jesus had wrought.

How could the voice of Jesus have been other than effectual? He who created that little hand had touched it; He who hereafter shall say, "arise ye dead," then said, "Maid, arise," therefore the happy parents received their darling child restored to life, health, and beauty. Oh happy thought! oh blessed faith that led that father to seek Jesus in the time of his trial and affliction!

This instance in the life of Jesus affords us profitable and comforting thoughts adapted to the present occasion. First, The faith of Jairus is truly conspicuous. It was similar to that which we all need to exercise in Christ. Jairus believed in Christ's power to deliver from temporal death, thus demonstrating to us, in the raising of the widow's son of Nain, and in that wonderful raising of Lazarus from the grave. It is ours to believe in him as able to deliver from the power of sin and the penalty due every sin committed against God. Confidence, trust, are essential qualities in each. "It is the soul's venture, in spite of the terror of the law, it draws near to Christ. It ventures in Christ in opposition to our guttles; it ventures for Christ in opposition to all difficulties and discouragements."

Although many of Jairus' friends and neighbors did not believe in Christ, and would have laughed him to scorn, yet he believed in Him, and as a reward rejoiced in the restoration of his daughter. Let us remember that this faith, precious as it is, is the gift of God. All the Jews did not have faith in Christ as one able to work miracles, neither do all in Christian lands possess saving faith. We should pray to God that, although we see not Jesus, "we may yet believe in him with joy unspeakable and full of glory, receiving the end of our faith, even the salvation of our souls," which are more precious than these perishing earthly bodies.

Second, Notice the compassionate love of Jesus. According to Matthew, Jesus, when summoned in this instance, was present at his (Matthew's) house, discourses with his disciples and others upon the subjects which interested them. But he at once left the house of his friend to go on this mission of sympathy and kindness. Even on the way, a woman afflicted with disease, in faith and humility touched the hem of his garment, for she said within herself, "if I may but touch the hem of his garment I shall be whole." And when Jesus turned and saw her, he said, "daughter, be of good comfort, thy faith hath made thee whole," and the woman was made whole from that very hour. So from the first of his active ministry to the close, when he had compassion on the penitent dying thief, Jesus' life was filled with deeds of benevolence; and it is our privilege to think of him to-day, though not present in visible form, as the same in spirit, ready to bestow upon spiritual blessings and to grant such aid as shall be for our good. Who can doubt the love of the Heavenly Father or that of the Divine Son, when we read, "God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life," and that Christ freely said, "Lo, I come to do thy will?" In the six thousand years of the world's history, some half dozen instances of a man's deliberately laying down his life for his friend have been known—deeds of human affection, triumphs of human love! But there is only one record of a person dying for his enemies. "While we were yet strangers and aliens, Christ died for us." Such love calls for our praise. It can wipe away the mourner's tears; it can reach the mourning heart.

Third, Notice the power of Jesus as seen in this instance. Gradually the child of Jairus had declined like some frail fly, fading upon its stem. At length the vital energy failed, the silver cord was loosed, the golden bowl was broken, and she sank in the arms of death.

Some of the lookers on appeared to hold the opinions of the Sadducees, "that she being dead had ceased to be, and that her spirit would never live again." In opposition to this Jesus used the words, "She sleepeth," intimating that while the body was dead her spirit still lived. But one had come who had power both to forgive sins and to raise the dead. In his own name Jesus addressed the child, saying, arise, and her spirit came again; the energies of life flowed in, and she arose to the enjoyment of youthful beauty and strength. Who but a Divine One could thus control life, one of the mysteries of our being, and in His own name recall the spirit?

Again, in this wonderful change from death to life we see typified the anticipated resurrection at the end of time, when all, both small and great, shall be raised, and the voice of the Lord. As we read, "For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump; for the trumpet shall sound and the dead shall be raised incorruptible and shall be changed."

Although we live in a time remote from that when Christ fulfilled his mission on earth, and moved by Divine kindness and love accomplished the wonderful works of which we have spoken, yet by faith we may look forward to the day when he will call to life the sleeping dead, and every little one who has not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression, and every true follower of Christ will meet glory and immortality, in distinction from those who will find sinners against God, although they rise, "inherit shame and everlasting contempt."

May we not apply the text, so precious to every Christian parent's heart, and spoken by Jesus, "Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not, for of such is the kingdom of heaven," in such instances as the present, and take comfort in the loss of this little one, (herself a fair flower) also from the poet in which he carries our thoughts forward to the blooming again in perfection of these flowers now faded?—

Two thousand years ago a flower  
Bloomed brightly in a far-off land,  
Two thousand years ago its seed  
Was placed within a dead man's hand.  
Before the Savior came to earth,  
That man had lived and loved and died,  
And even in that far-off time  
The flower had sprung to its perfume wide.  
Some rose and some, years came and went,  
The dead hand kept its treasure well;  
Nations were born and turned to dust,  
While life lay hidden in that shell.  
The shrouded flower was rubbed at last,  
The seed was sown in the earth,  
And the life, long hidden, burst forth,  
Into a glorious flower burst forth.  
Just such a plant as that which grew  
From such a seed when buried in the tomb,  
Just such a flower in Egypt bloomed  
And died two thousand years ago.  
And will not we, who are so near the seed,  
And kept the life within its shell,  
When those who have laid to rest,  
Watch over their buried dead as well?  
And will not we, from death the seed,  
Crave something glorious to arise?  
Ah! though it sleep two thousand years,  
Yet all that buried dust shall rise.  
Just such a face as grows you now,  
From such a form as here we wear,  
Only more glorious far, will rise  
To meet the Savior in the air.

Bereaved friends, take comfort in these truths: trust in the Savior. Believe that He who heard the petition of Jairus, or so many years ago, regards you in your deep affliction and is willing to answer your prayer for strength and guidance now, and that he is willing and able also to watch over this precious one, and to restore her to you after a season, saved through his grace, beautiful in form, prepared to be forever blessed. Your affliction is indeed a severe one, and it is your privilege to weep, but you must not weep as those without hope. Remember that God's hand is manifest in this trial of your faith.

There is an inscription on a child's tombstone in an English churchyard, teaching submission as follows: "Who plucked that flower?" cried the gardener as he walked through the garden. His fellow servant answered, "The Master," and the gardener held his peace. "So may it be with you, and may you have the spirit of Luther when afflicted as you are. His little daughter lay on her death bed. Luther approached her and said: 'My little daughter, my beloved Margaret, you would willingly remain with your earthly parents, but if God calls you, you will go with your heavenly Father.' 'Yes, dear father, it is as God pleases.' 'Dear little girl,' he exclaimed, 'oh, how I love you. The spirit it is willing but the flesh is weak.' He then took the bible and read to her the passage, 'Thy dead men shall live, with my dead body shall they arise. Awake and sing, ye that dwell in the dust, for thy dew is as the dew of herbs, and the earth shall give up the dead.' She turned her eyes to him and said with touching simplicity, 'Yes, father.' The land grant you true submission to his will likewise.

The children of the Sabbath School—the little companions of Martha—are afflicted by this bereavement. You, pray to the Savior; read the bible; keep its precepts; love the Sabbath School; love whatever is pure as did Martha, and he will adopt you as lambs in his fold. Then you will be prepared for whatever God's will may be.

So are those of us who are parents anxious to instruct our little ones in the truth, and to train them for the service of God. They are treasures lent to us. Let us be faithful to them that at last we may be prepared to say at the right hand of the throne, "Here Lord are we, and the children thou hast given us." AMEN.

"How are the mighty fallen," you thought earthly fame doth not seem; How perished in a single day  
A little life, a golden beam.  
Though that young life hath passed away,  
Fading, fading, fading, fading away,  
To earthward, nations one and all,  
In "ill, in tribulation and sorrow."  
Rejoice from toil, from fear, from care,  
Drink in the sunshine of the earth,  
A richness, to thy soul, impart,  
So fit to fit for immortal life.  
And comes there yet, a voice again,  
To loved, and precious ones of earth:  
"No more grief, God's holy name,  
O, give, then, an act of precious worth,  
Paying the poor, God's special care:  
Loving, and seeking others on,  
To Sunday school, and house of prayer:  
How yet do'st live, though life is done.  
If his mission here has been,  
From out of sin, has been beguiled,  
To ways of truth, to God to win,  
Then 'tis the mighty' voice again,  
And ye, whose hearts are gloried in,  
In you is proved the prophet's word,  
And 'tis a little child shall lead,  
Till how 'tis treasure, 'tis preferred,  
With patience then, O wait the day,  
When God His mysteries shall reveal:  
Then every word, our Christ will bear,  
—Mrs. C. C. Stearns.

There are 50 Baptist churches in South Carolina.

Genoa, Ill., has a Methodist Church without a male member.

It is estimated that there are in England and Wales 2,740 Congregational churches.

## Agricultural Department.

I. D. R. COLLINS, Editor.

### YOUNG FRUIT TREES.

We esteem fall planting much preferable to spring planting, because cultivators have usually more leisure to plant trees properly, and there is not so much danger from the trees starting before the energies of life have been put in transplanting from the nursery, as in the spring season. But we find still another advantage in the selection of fruit trees which will do well to note. Young trees are much better than old ones. We would never plant out a standard pear tree over two years old; nor a dwarf tree over two years old also. If any one will observe the usual method of digging three year old trees from the nursery, they will find the roots greatly mutilated, and fully one-third are lost when the tree is at last dug from the ground. To counterbalance this loss, the top of the tree must be cut back in the same proportion; and when this is done there is little if any better stock left than is found in a good two years old tree.

Where a person has ground in abundance, and can afford to wait patiently, we would recommend one year old trees. We do not lose three per cent. in transplanting one year old trees, while older ones suffer fully twice as much.

We can then cordially commend *The Fruit Grower's Creed* for setting out young trees:

1st. Because they cost less.  
2d. The freight is lighter.  
3d. It is easier to plant the head.  
4th. They will outgrow larger and older trees, which have to be cut back when transplanted.

There is no such gain in planting big trees. Eight years ago the writer set two, three, and four years old trees to grow, and on the 1st of June, 1872, the very first apples, of course, came from the four years old trees; but they were few in number, and to day the one and two years old are the most vigorous, and have borne in the aggregate the most fruit. In setting a large orchard the one and two years old trees I verily believe are the most profitable.

Heeling in, is a favorite process with some planters who purchase their trees in the fall, heel them in during the winter, and in the spring are able to set them out earlier than they could obtain the same from any nurseryman. "Heeling in" is simply digging a trench, say two feet wide and one spade deep, and long enough to hold whatever number of trees you have. Commence at one end of the trench, laying your trees in a slanting position, and cover the roots well with earth, pressing it firmly with your foot. Then put in another layer, as before, and so on till all are "heeled in." Now dig a trench one spade deep all around this bed of trees, throwing the dirt on the trees near the ground, and over all put a few inches deep of straw for winter protection.

### SEASONABLE SUGGESTIONS.

Farm stock requires particular attention at this season of the year. The straw and poorer quality of hay should have been fed out previous to this time, during the cold weather, when animals have a keen appetite, leaving the good hay for spring feeding.

Cows need a little extra care now. The season is at hand when they will commence giving milk, and if not well fed and cared for, the quantity and quality of milk will be inferior, and the animal will run down in flesh. This should be guarded against as much as possible, as the prospect is fair for a reasonable price for both of the first make of butter and cheese, it will pay farmers to feed liberally, and take good care of their cows.

Young stock should not be neglected, but kept in a thrifty and growing condition. This stock consists mostly of heifers of different ages, which is desirable to make cows of. It is time, it is conceded by men who ought to know, that it is better to have heifers commence giving milk at two years old than three, if of the proper size. By good care and feed, a year's time may be saved in this way. In addition to good hay, a feed of roots or a little meal should be given.

"The sheep interest is again reviving, and the farmer in his little round of 'doing chores,' should not forget his flock, if he has one, and leave it to shift for itself. If early lambs are expected, roots or grain should be given to ensure a good flow of milk, as this will be found more difficult now, than after a good bite of grass is furnished.

Although the inmates of our pig pens are hardly considered worth looking at now, or to pay even for ordinary attention, yet the title we probably soon turn in their favor, and farmers, although they may not keep so many in number as heretofore, should endeavor to keep the quality fully up to the present standard at least. We should not run behind even here, but what we do endeavor to do well.

Working teams have had a hard time of it, during the winter, and as there will be but little opportunity to fit the most for rest, before the labor of spring will commence, they will need good feed and treatment, to enable them to perform what is expected of them. The grain for both horses and oxen should be ground before feeding, as it will pay the cost twice over. A portion of corn can then be added to the oats, which will make the feed better than the last alone.

It will be more profitable for a while to feed a portion of the milk of the dairy to calves than to pigs. Farmers have depended too much on Canada for cows with which to replenish their dairies, and have lost money in these purchases, fully one-half, we believe, proving inferior milkers. One effect of the low price on pork will be to encourage farmers to raise their own dairy stock, and so far, it will be an advantage, as there is no reason why we cannot by this method obtain better cows than we now possess. To do this we must commence at the beginning, keeping only the calves from the best cows, the get of improved males, then bring them up in good shape, keeping them thrifty and growing summer and winter, until they come to maturity. Try this, farmers, and see if it is not a better way than the old one which has been practiced for so many years.—*Messenger.*

Mr. Moses, of Geneseo, Ill., commenced three years ago with shipping five tons of poultry to Boston during the winter. Last winter he shipped sixteen tons, and this winter, so far, he has sent off over thirty tons.

Weeds should be collected and removed from the garden; after being pulled or broken up, they often rot and grow. The best way is to burn them, root and branch.

BUTTER IN SACKS.—The dairywomen of Washington Territory, for a want of putting up and keeping butter which presents some features that are worthy the attention of those having butter packed for family use or retail trade. The packing is thus described by the Illustrated Journal of Agriculture:

"All butter is packed in muslin sacks, made in such form that the package, when complete, is a cylinder three or four inches in diameter and from half a foot to a foot in length. The butter goes from the churn, as soon as worked over, into the cylindrical bags, made of bleached muslin. The packages are then put into large sacks, containing strong brine with a slight admixture of saltpetre, and by means of weights, kept always below the surface. The third ingredient always protects the butter from all impurities that chance to come in contact with the package; and being always buried in brine it is protected from the action of the air; and it has been ascertained by trial, that butter put up in this way will keep sweet longer than in any other way.

"Besides, it is easier and cheaper for the manufacturer than to pack either in jars or tins. And for the retailer there is no telling the advantage on the score of safety and convenience. These rolls of butter can lay upon his counter as safe from injury, from dust or other contact, as bars of lead; can be rolled up for his customer in a sheet of paper with as much propriety as a bundle of matches. If the consumer, when he gets home, will cut the sack, he can thrust it into a pan of pure cold water and take it out clean and white. As he uses the butter from day to day, with a sharp knife he cuts it off from the end of the roll in slices of thickness suited to his want, and peels off the cloth from the end of the slice, leaving it in tidy form to place upon the table.

A CASE OF SUCCESSFUL FARM MANAGEMENT.—"Walks and Talks" in the March number of the Agriculturist has on this a crop of peas and oats: "The land was well manured, and it had a splendid crop, getting eighty loads from the ten acres. It was well cured, thrashed at the time it was drawn in, or a few days later, and proves most excellent fodder. I have never raised a crop that gave me so much satisfaction, and I propose to grow it more extensively this year." It doubtless was cut when yet considerable green; and thus well cured, there was considerable substance in it. It was "cut into chaff." Here a large amount of good fodder was obtained with the grain in the bargain.

In this section peas, or peas and oats, or peas and barley, are sometimes sown in similar crops realized, 30 to 50 bushels of grain per acre. The land is then plowed and put to wheat. It turns up mellow, and apparently without loss of fertility. A good crop of wheat usually follows, and successful seeding in the spring. This pays, especially in these times of high market for hay, the coarse fodder answering a very good purpose for feed, which should in all cases be run through the straw cutter, as the coarse straw requires this. A little corn meal, or roots, or bran, or the grain thrashed from the straw and ground, added, will keep stock in good condition. If hay is to be spared it may be sold, however, only when the land is good enough to warrant it, and not then should this be largely indulged in. But occasionally mixed crops like the above may be raised to great advantage. It is these times when hay is found a costly affair to feed.

STRAWBERRIES FOR THE MILLION.—It is a burning shame at this day for any farmer or gardener, no matter where located, to be without a clean and thrifty strawberry bed for family use. The old plea that the common farmer has no time to fritter away in raising such "stuff," never was a valid excuse for neglecting strawberry culture. It is one of the most profitable parts of any farm. No kitchen garden is complete without a strawberry patch. To one that has always been accustomed to a bountiful supply of small fruits for home use, it is strange to find farmers cultivating from 50 to 200 acres of the ordinary field crops from year to year, and still these very same men—without a raspberry, a blackberry, a currant, or a strawberry under culture. These same farmers would think it quite important to keep a 50 acre field of corn as clean as an onion bed, and yet have no such feelings about strawberries. We have seen many plats that might with propriety be called grass beds, with here and there a strawberry plant belonging to this class of farmers.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

ALSIKE CLOVER.—We are constantly receiving inquiries as to where the seed of Alsike Clover or Orchard Grass can be obtained. We suppose they may be had at most of the leading seed stores. Among the most reliable of these, stand W. K. Bliss and Sons, of New York, who we can recommend from personal experience as careful and reliable firms. The Alsike Clover is sold, we think, at from 20 to 60 cents a pound, and the Orchard Grass (12 pounds to the bushel) at \$3.25 to \$3.50 a bushel. Small quantities can be ordered and received with safety by mail, at quantities by express. We are glad to see the increasing interest in these valuable forage plants, for we need a greater variety in cultivation than we now have. The quantity recommended for sowing is from four to twelve pounds of Alsike and from one to two bushels of Orchard Grass to the acre. Orchard Grass goes best with red clover, and Alsike with birdsfoot trefoil. The former and the latter are in condition to cut about the same time.—*Vt. Farmer.*

There is one kind of stock, certain, that no farmer of Orleans County need expect to get any better breed abroad than he can get at home. We refer to Chester White Swine. We were asked as chairman of the committee on swine at the New England Fair last fall, and there were no White Chesters on the ground equal to what can be seen at any time in the pens of Thos. Baker at Barton, or of H. C. Cleveland in Coventry. Farmers can buy of either these gentlemen, and get not only thoroughbred but fully bred stock, such as will give perfect satisfaction.—*Vt. Farmer.*

Begin in season to make your garden, and be seasonable about all your operations.

HARROWS.—Is a harrow of use in mellowing the soil? Does it compact the soil? A cultivator lifts it like the plow.

## THE TRAVELING DOCTOR.

BY Z. E. J.

It was once my good fortune to make the acquaintance and enjoy the hospitality of an intelligent and wealthy gentleman, whose home was a gem of beauty. Situated on an easterly slope of an island, the land descended to the waters edge, then across an arm of the bay—a mile or more wide—where the boats of the pleasure-seeker or fisherman might be seen through the bright summer days, could be seen the main land rising gradually to a moderate height, all marked into squares and parallelograms for pastures and cultivated fields around the farmhouse.

This home was surrounded by trees, and on its west side were two acres of planted woodland—deciduous and evergreen trees—flowering and ornamental shrubs; an occasional apple, pear, quince and peach tree; graveled walks around and across the central part, and a rustic summer house. All showed that the owner was one who delighted "to commune with nature in her visible forms." The radiant flower garden before the windows to the east, was "now especially the result of the supervision of the mistress of this beautiful home. While the short visit was full of pleasure to me, and full of kindness and consideration on the part of my host, I could see there was a constant draw back to perfect enjoyment in the family circle, not, however, on account of any defect in the amiable disposition of any member of it, but from the deafness of Mrs. W.—whose cheerful countenance and pleasant remark at the table or in the parlor, showed her desire to give happiness while she was unconscious of the conversation going on around.

In regard to this affliction Mr. W.—told me the efforts they had made to gain relief from physicians who pretended to make eye and ear maladies an especial study. Once a trip was taken to New York and several weeks spent there with daily visits to a celebrated and largely advertised doctor, who in their case demanded a good portion of the \$300 fee in advance, and gave treatment that in no way gave hope of cure, and his apparent lack of interest and sympathy with the suffering patients, and his great interest in their money, caused a disgust with doctors, and a despair of cure that sent them home resolved to bear the ills already known, rather than to bear the suspense incident to a course of treatment, and the annoyance of seeing day by day that the doctor's interest in a fee, was far more than with the afflictions of the patient.

Months passed away, when one pleasant summer day a gay team came bowling along the road and called at this house. The driver announced himself as a very successful doctor of the ear, and he had restored many deaf persons so that their hearing was perfect and continued so. He had just come into the neighboring city and should stop only a short time; he had made inquiries in regard to those likely to need his skill, and had heard of this case of Mrs. W.—It so happened that a brother and sister of Mrs. W.—were also in the neighborhood, and both partially deaf, so the three persons were gathered in the pleasant sitting room, and began to negotiate terms as favorable as possible for the cure. It can be imagined that it took strong lungs and loud talking on the part of the doctor to set forth his skill, and inspire faith in the minds of those who had heretofore been constantly deceived in their hopes of a cure. For sixty dollars he would attempt the cure of the three persons. This was certainly a reasonable sum, yet doubts lingered in regard to the propriety of trusting a stranger to in any way treat them for this peculiar ailment in an organ so easily injured and so sensitive to treatment.

Finally the doctor said to the brother, "Allow me to examine your ears. I can then judge more correctly of the cause of the deafness, and the probability of its removal." To this the brother assented, and the doctor took from his pocket a few little implements, selected one and inserted it in the ear, withdrew it, looked in, and again carefully inserted the little pinners, all the time saying to himself, "Well! I should think as much! No wonder you can't hear. No difficulty in curing such a case!" when snap went the pick in the man's ear, sounding like the explosion of a small pistol, and the man started and the doctor trippingly held up his little pinners with a bit of some white substance in their grasp. "Just see that! no wonder he can't hear with his ears full of wax! Did you not hear it snap when I started that wax?" The man whose ears were still ringing, assented that he did hear it snap.

During this time Mrs. W.—became strangely agitated and went into another room, and through the open door beckoned to her husband. He finally saw her signs and went to her. She closed the door and said, "That man is an impostor; I watched him all the time; I saw him take something from his pocket and put it in his mouth and bite it in pieces, then he put it in my ears, and I think there are some pieces of the same on the carpet that dropped from his mouth." You can easily imagine the effect upon Mr. W.—who about all things, admires honesty, and having seen some deceit in the treatment of the case of his wife, was justly severe on quacks. He returned to his sitting room and very decidedly dismissed the traveling doctor from his house; indeed some what hastened his going. After his departure they found upon the floor, some fragments of what appeared the meat of some nut, as the almond, pecor or cream nut.

Since this experience, no efforts have been made to gain relief from an infirmity that nature caused, and only quacks promise to cure.

## NOTABLE EVENTS.

The first bank was established in Italy in 808, by the Lombard Jews, of whom, some settled in Lombard street, London, where many banks have ever since been located.

The first piece of artillery was invented by a German, soon after the invention of gunpowder, and artillery was first used by the Moors at Algiers, in Spain, over 500 years ago.

The oldest and largest chain bridge in the world is said to be that of King-tung, in China, where it forms a safe and perfect road from the top of one lofty mountain to another.

Calico, the well-known cotton cloth, in named from Calicut, a city of India, from whence it first came. Calico was not known in England at all until as late as the year 1631.

Among the Romans all men of full age were obliged to marry, and it is even a modern law of England which inflicts a fine upon all the bachelors in the kingdom of twenty-five years and over.

Women never appeared upon the stage among the ancients; their parts were represented by men until as late as the year 1662, when Charles II. first encouraged their public appearance.

The first book ever printed was the book of Psalms, by Faust and Schiffer, A. D. 1457. It was printed on one side only of the leaves, after which they were, in the binding, pasted back to back.

The bayonet derives its name from the place where it was invented, Bayonne, in France, and was first used in battle as a weapon by the French in the year 1635, and soon became universal. The practice of insurance is of great antiquity, and was known in the time of Claudius Caesar, A. D. 43. It is certain that assurance of ships at sea was practiced as early as the year 45 A. D.

A WONDER OF VEGETATION.—There is no tree known on earth which serves so many purposes as the bamboo. The Indian obtains from it a part of his food, many of his household utensils, and a wood at once lighter and capable of bearing greater strains than heavier wood of the same size. Besides in expeditions in the tropics under the rays of a vertical sun, bamboo trunks have more than once been used as barriers in which water, much purer than could be preserved in vessels of any other kind, is fresh for the crew. Upon the west coast of South Asia, bamboo furnish all the materials for the construction of houses at once pleasant, substantial, and preferable to that of stone, which the frequently recurring earthquakes bring down upon the heads of the lodgers.—The loftiest of the bamboos is the *Saccharum*. In tracts where it grows in the greatest perfection it sometimes rises to the height of 100 feet, with a stem only 18 inches in diameter at the base. The wood itself is only an inch in thickness. The fact that the bamboo is hollow has made it eminently useful for a variety of purposes—it serves as a measure for liquids, and if fitted with a lid and bottom, trunks and barrels are made of it. Small boats even are made of the largest trunks by strengthening them with strips of other wood where needed. In one day they obtain the height of several feet, and with a microscope their development may be easily watched. But the most remarkable feature about the bamboo is their blossoming. With all this marvelous rapidity of growth they bloom only twice in a century, the flowers appearing at the end of fifty years. Like other grasses, they die after having borne seed.

FORCE OF IMAGINATION.—An esteemed friend of ours heard much of the medical properties of the waters of a certain spring some distance from where she resided. She had a pamphlet that enumerated many diseases, from which she recognized at least half a dozen with which she was afflicted. To her great joy she was told that her son had called at the very town where the spring was located, and a five gallon keg and a strict injunction were laid upon him to bring back some of the water.

The keg was put in the wagon, and slipping under the seat was quite overlooked. The business was urgent, and took some time to perform it, and the water was quite forgotten. He had got near home in the evening, when feeling down under the seat for something, his hand struck the keg. To go back was not to be thought of, and to admit his stupidity was impossible. He therefore drew up his horse by the side of a wall, near which was the old sweep well from which the family had drunk for a century, and filling the keg went home. The first question was: "Did you get that water?" "Yes," said he; "but darned if I see any difference in it from any other water." A cup was handed the invalid, who drank with infinite relish, and said she was surprised at her son's not seeing a difference. There was undoubtedly a medical taste about it, and it dried up any other water did, which she had always heard of mineral water. Her son hoped it would do her good, and by the time the keg was exhausted she was ready to give a certificate of the value of the water, it having relieved her of all her ails.

A BIG CLOCK.—The large clock at the English Parliament House is said to be the largest one in the world. The four dials of this clock are twenty-two feet in diameter. Every half minute the point of the minute hand moves nearly seven inches. The clock will go eight and a half days, but it only strikes for seven and a half, thus indicating any neglect in winding up. The mere winding up of the striking apparatus takes two hours. The pendulum is fifteen feet long; the wheels are of cast iron; the hour bell is eight feet high and nine feet in diameter, weighing nearly fifteen tons, and the hammer alone weighs more than four hundred pounds. This clock strikes the quarter hours, and by its strokes the short-hand reporters in the Parliament chambers regulate their labors. At every stroke a new reporter takes the place of the old one, whilst the first retires to write out the notes that he has taken during the previous fifteen minutes.

FAVORITE NAMES.—One can hardly believe that there have for a name could tempt a village to take one already appropriated by another village in the same State; yet in Michigan there are six towns named Sherman, while Grant and Sheridan are each honored with five, Colfax with four, and thirty-two other towns have but sixteen names among them. Some of the residents of these towns have just discovered that they would receive their mail much sooner, but for the awkward duplication of the names of the towns.

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